



THE PHYSICIAN'S *Bookshelf*

THE PATHOLOGY OF TRAUMA—2nd Edition. Alan Richards Moritz, M.D., Professor of Pathology and Director of the Institute of Pathology of the School of Medicine, Western Reserve University, Cleveland. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1954. 414 pages, \$8.50.

Generally, the book is divided into chapters discussing and detailing the causes and the effects of mechanical injury on the various organ systems of the body. While the bulk of the volume is so specialized as not to be of general interest to all physicians, the physical principles of injury, the oft-discussed relation of trauma to tumors, etc., might be worthwhile reading for the practitioner.

While the book is said, in the preface, to be enlarged and thoroughly revised, a paragraph by paragraph comparison shows relatively modest change from the first edition. The chapter on mechanical injuries now touches on the kinetics of forces causing injury. The chapter on trauma and infection has been enlarged to offer more detail on specific infections and has new references added and a few removed. The last chapter dealing with the medicolegal autopsy merely touches on the subject and thus offers little to the experienced pathologist; and it might be better for the uninitiated to turn to one of the readily available more complete works for reading or reference on the subject.

Any practicing pathologist or physician engaged in medicolegal activities would do well to be familiar with the book.

Any physician who has occasion to treat any appreciable number of traumatic cases would gain from a familiarity with the subject matter of the text.

Any physician who is to be called on to testify about any traumatic death or who is to give expert opinion, would find himself better prepared to give such opinion in a manner most helpful to the court, after referring to the volume.

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SALT AND THE HEART. Edward T. Yorke, M.D., Attending Cardiologist, Alexian Brothers Hospital, Associate Cardiologist, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Dispensary Physician, Elizabeth General Hospital, Elizabeth, N. J., Consultant in Medicine, Rahway Hospital, Rahway, N. J. Drapkin Books, 36 East 19th Street, Linden, N. J., 1953. 83 pages, \$3.45.

For the perplexed patient who is initially confronted with the rigors of a restricted sodium intake this monograph will adequately supplement the physician's instructions. It begins with a prologue concerning the tribulations of a retired seafarer (identified as an "Old Salt") who suffers from paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnoea. It ends with detailed information on how to interpret the labels on boxes of unsalted crackers.

Several preliminary chapters are devoted to brief descriptions of various physiologic derangements, fluid balance and exogenous salt requirements as well as the mechanism of edema formation based on the "forward failure" concept. Written in lay terms the material occasionally suffers from oversimplification especially when alluding to such complexities as the low salt syndrome, cation exchange resins and salt-losing nephritis.

The real value of the book is found in the latter part which contains simple conversion tables, a compilation of the sodium content of practically all foods, household hints for removing salt from numerous items, recipes for preparing menus and excellent advice on evaluating so-called low sodium products. Numerical sodium ratings (mg. per 100 gm.) are listed for each food and will certainly be appreciated by the bridge-playing homemaker accustomed to honor-counts.

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CLINICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY. Karl E. Paschkis, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Assistant Professor of Physiology, Director of the Division of Endocrine and Cancer Research, Jefferson Medical College; Abraham E. Rakoff, M.D., Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecologic Endocrinology, Jefferson Medical College; and Abraham Cantarow, M.D., Professor of Biochemistry, Jefferson Medical College. Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., 49 East 33rd Street, New York, 1954. 830 pages, 253 illustrations, 5 in full color, \$16.00.

This book will find its place among the best in the field of endocrinology and metabolism. It will best serve the student and practicing physician as a reference volume, yet despite its size and all-inclusiveness, it is brief and readable; controversial subjects are generally avoided. A good bibliography makes the book of additional value to the specialist. The material is presented for each gland in the order of embryology, anatomy, histology, physiology, pathology, pathologic physiology, diagnosis and treatment. Hence, answers to questions are easily found. Conditions of hypo- and hyperfunction of each gland are discussed in separate chapters. Emphasis is placed on pathologic physiology and integration of clinical and laboratory data. The section on diabetes is brief and that on the ovaries extensive. Chapters on obesity and methods are included. A list of commercial hormone preparations will be helpful. The illustrations, especially the photomicrographs, are very good. This book is highly recommended as a general text in clinical endocrinology.

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MANUAL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE, A—2nd edition. Thomas T. Mackie, M.D., Chairman, American Foundation for Tropical Medicine; George W. Hunter, III, Ph.D., and C. Brooke Worth, M.D. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1954. 907 pages, 304 illustrations, \$12.00.

This manual, originally published during World War II under the auspices of the National Research Council, served the Armed Forces well and was enthusiastically received by others who studied and later practiced medicine in the tropics. In this second edition it fulfills even more effectively the constant need for an accurate, critically selected and condensed text on disease in the warm countries. An over-all review has been accomplished with the assistance of an imposing list of investigators thoroughly familiar with certain tropical diseases. This type of cooperation, so essential in modern compilations, was not solicited in the section of bacterial diseases. Because sometimes old sum-

maries were followed, some aspects of some infections escaped attention. These oversights are minor, even insignificant, deficiencies, completely submerged in the general high quality of the book. The illustrations are numerous and illustrative; the index (52 pages) is invaluable. The authors have set an excellent example in this index; the listings are logical and its coverage of the text is complete. Equally welcome to any physician or public health worker in the tropics are the descriptions of carefully selected and fully proven diagnostic laboratory procedures essential in tropical medicine. Any physician reading this manual will receive a good introduction to the ecology of human disease under the impact of environmental provocative factors.

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THE THYROID—A Physiological, Pathological, Clinical and Surgical Study. T. Levitt, M.A., F.R.C.S.(Eng.), F.R.C.S.(Ed.), F.R.C.S.I., Hunterian Professor of the Royal College of Surgeons. E. & S. Livingstone, Ltd., London. Distributed through Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, 1954. 606 pages, \$20.00.

This volume is written to elaborate upon and attempt to substantiate the author's hypothesis that "abnormalities of the thyroid gland are not isolated diseases, but are phases in an evolving continuum." He has found it expedient to describe six progressive phases of the toxic gland, as follows: (1) epithelial hyperplasia, (2) lymphoepithelial hyperplasia, (3) focal lymphoid hyperplasia, (4) diffuse lymphoid hyperplasia, (5) fibrolymphoid hyperplasia, (6) fibrosis.

With such a purpose and with a new classification, it is not surprising that the arrangement of the subject matter is novel. The reviewer, however, found the book difficult to read because of awkward wording, unclear concepts, and particularly because many statements of controversial nature are offered as fact with little or no qualification. The volume is profusely and beautifully illustrated in color as well as in black and white. In actual fact, the volume becomes more a text than an elaboration of an hypothesis, because it includes a discussion of all phases of thyroidology, from physiological considerations to surgical technique, albeit with the author's personal orientation. The special student of thyroid disease may find the book of interest because of its photography and the style of presentation, but the book is not recommended as a textbook for the medical student or general practitioner.

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FRENCH'S INDEX OF DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS—Seventh Edition. Arthur H. Douthwaite, M.D., Senior Physician, Guy's Hospital; Honorary Physician, All Saints' Hospital for Genito-Urinary Diseases. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1954. 1046 pages, 731 illustrations, 200 in color, \$20.00.

When the reviewer was a student, French's *Index of Differential Diagnosis* commanded a degree of awe and admiration which gave it an almost biblical quality. Since that time, physiological and etiological concepts have replaced the descriptive clinical patterns which French so diligently and comprehensively gathered into the *Index of Differential Diagnosis*, and other books have helped to civilize the wilderness into which French so bravely pioneered.

This is the first edition edited by Dr. A. A. Douthwaite. It has been completely revised or rewritten and has a number of new contributors. It has likewise been pruned to produce a more compact work; and much obsolete material has been weeded out and replaced. The indexing is still excellent.

However, the reviewer feels that a good deal remains to be done to give the book the status it once commanded. There is still too much retention of some of the older terms and concepts. (For example, Napkin Region Eruptions—applied

to infants and adults alike—requires a dictionary to set the American student straight.) There are not nearly enough tables of differential diagnosis and many of those present should be more inclusive. There are many excellent illustrations, a number of which are in color, but also quite a few which could well have been relegated to the limbo of the first or second edition.

To sum it up, too much of the book may be epitomized by the discussion on menorrhagia (pages 469-472): There is the usual definition and differentiation from metrorrhagia and methostaxis. There is the inclusive tabulation of the causes, divided into four categories. Then the contributor makes the revealing summary statement: "Since the discovery of the ovarian hormones and their activator the anterior pituitary gland, our conceptions of the causes of excessive menstrual loss have undergone considerable changes. It is a question whether some of the causes given in the above list should not be discarded, ovarian dysfunction being the true underlying cause."

Regardless of all this, the reviewer feels that there is a place for the *Index of Differential Diagnosis* on the reference shelf of medical libraries and as a one-volume consultant to be at the elbow of the medical practitioner. He recommends it for such purposes.

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RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY OF THE EYELIDS—2nd Edition. Wendell L. Hughes, M.D., F.A.C.S., Hempstead, N. Y., The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1954. 260 pages, 268 illustrations, \$8.50.

This book, now in its second edition, is very worthwhile for ophthalmic as well as plastic surgeons. The book deals with historical data as well as present-day techniques. There are 210 pages of subject matter followed by a very extensive list of reference works.

There is a definite need for this type of book because not only is lid reconstruction cosmetic but must be done properly to protect and preserve the integrity of the eyeball. It is essential that this type of surgery not be attempted without proper knowledge of the subject.

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WINE AS FOOD AND MEDICINE. Salvatore P. Lucia, A.B., M.D., Sc.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Medicine, U. C. School of Medicine. The Blakiston Company, Inc., New York, 1954. 149 pages, \$3.00.

An extremely interesting and worthwhile book describing the value of the *temperate* use of wine as a food and as a therapeutic agent. Its effect upon the psyche and various organ systems is thoroughly discussed. There is an extensive bibliography.

The scientific accuracy of the book is slightly impaired by reference to many experimental studies which are obsolete and to unsupported opinions from old writings.

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ENDEMIC GOITER—The Adaptation of Man to Iodine Deficiency. John B. Stanbury, M.D., Gordon L. Brownell, Ph.D., Douglas S. Riggs, M.D., and Hector Perinetti, M.D., Juan Itoiz, Ph.D., Enrique B. Del Castillo, M.D. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1954. 209 pages, \$4.00.

This is a fascinating and well-written account of the fundamental nature of endemic (iodine deficient) goiter. The authors have described their studies upon goitrous patients living on the Mendoza slopes of the Argentine Andes, an area known to be deficient in iodine. Such a study might never have been possible had not a team of American workers cooperated with Argentine physicians and officials and completed the study just prior to the introduction of iodized salt for goiter prophylaxis. Following a very interesting account of the locale of the study and a